

Lodgyl.

April 23, 1958

Dear Sol:

Thanks for your letter and the trouble you're taking to put us on the right track. I was of course very sorry to hear about WH-8, as we had put a fair amount of time in on this culture. I suppose the blame for contamination rests on a god-awful medium like Levinthal's.

I will pick up the air parcel per your indications. We can stick it into the freezer promptly until we are tooled to use the contents.

A propos the role of serum and DPN, we tried some experiments on the availability of DPN for the adenine requirements of an adenineless *E. coli*. It did not replace adenine, nor did bovine serum, but the mixture did. I would attribute this to an enzyme in the serum which acts as a nucleotidase. As it is no more (nor less) likely that DPN permeates *Hemophilus* as such, there may be a comparable function of serum. If so, *Hemophilus* should be more readily grown in the absence of serum if it is furnished nicotinic riboside in place of DPN.

I will still wait for the outcome of your --x experiments with WH-8 S^r; there might be a very remote chance that this is still a mutant of *Hemophilus*, though this is stretching expectations a good deal.

Yours sincerely,

Joshua Lederberg